

Please amend claims 3, 15, 24, 34, 40, 46, 47, and 51, as follows (a marked up copy of the claims showing the changes made to affect the claim amendments is attached as an appendix hereto):

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3. (Amended) A system for distributing music to customers, comprising:  
a data transmission system for transmitting a plurality of music selections;  
a plurality of user stations at dispersed customer locations for receiving the transmitted music selections, the user stations including means for a customer to select and store one or more of the received music selections, and a recording device for permanently recording one or more of the stored music selections;  
a central controller system;  
a communications link between the customer locations and the central controller system to verify to the controller system when the stored music selections have been permanently recorded;  
a billing system associated with the central controller system to bill the customer locations for the permanently recorded music selections; and  
anti-piracy means for weaving into the recorded music selections an identification tag to identify the customer locations at which the recordings are made.

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15. (Amended) A music distribution method, comprising:

transmitting a plurality of music selections;

using a plurality of user stations at dispersed customer locations, to receive and store the transmitted music selections;

permanently recording one or more of the stored music selections;

using a communications link between the customer locations and a central controller system to verify to the controller system when the music selections have been permanently recorded;

using the central controller system to bill the customer locations for the music selections that are permanently recorded; and

providing the transmitted music selections with an anti-piracy feature to identify the customer locations at which the recordings are made, wherein the antipiracy feature includes an identification tag woven into the recorded music.

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24. (Amended) A system for recording music, comprising:

a plurality of user stations at dispersed customer location for receiving transmitted music selections, each user station including means for a customer to select and record desired ones of the received music selections;

a central controller system; and

a communications link between each of the customer locations and the central controller system to verify to the controller system when the selected music selections have been recorded;

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wherein the central controller system includes a billing system to bill the customer locations for the music selections that are recorded, and anti-piracy means for weaving an identification tag into the recorded music to identify the customer locations at which the recordings are made.

*Cont*  
*D3*

34. (Amended) A system for distributing music to users, comprising:
- a transmitter blanket-transmitting a plurality of encoded digital music contents;
  - a plurality of user stations comprising:
    - a first input terminal receiving a user selection of a transmitted encoded music content to store;
    - a module receiving and storing the selected transmitted encoded music content;
    - an output terminal sending an indication of the user selection;
    - a decoder operable when enabled to decode the stored encoded music content;
    - a second input terminal receiving a key unique to the music content selected by the user to enable the decoder;
    - an anti-piracy module to weave an ID tag in the decoded music content; and
    - an output device supplying the decoded music content to the user from the decoder;
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a central controller connected to the user stations and comprising a first input terminal receiving from a user station an indication of a user selection of a transmitted music content and a first output terminal transmitting to the user station a key unique to the selected music content; and

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a billing system associated with the central controller to bill the user stations.

40. (Amended) A system for distributing music to users, comprising:

a transmitter blanket-transmitting a plurality of encoded digital music contents;

a plurality of user stations comprising:

a first input terminal receiving a user selection of a transmitted encoded music content to store;

a module receiving and storing the selected transmitted encoded music content;

an output terminal sending an indication of the user selection;

a decoder operable when enabled to decode the stored encoded music content;

a second input terminal receiving a key unique to the music content selected by the user to enable the decoder;

an anti-piracy module to embed an ID tag in the decoded music content; and

an output device supplying the decoded music content to the user from the decoder;

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a central controller connected to the user stations and comprising a first input terminal receiving from a user station an indication of a user selection of a transmitted

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music content and a first output terminal transmitting to the user station a key unique to the selected music content; and  
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a billing system associated with the central controller to bill the user stations, wherein the billing system processes payment transactions from the user stations and the central controller transmits the key only if a payment transaction for the key is completed in advance of the key transmission.

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46. (Amended) A user station for purchasing digital music contents, comprising:  
a module receiving and storing blanket-transmitted encoded music contents;  
an input terminal receiving a key unique to a recorded music content;  
a decoder decoding the music content using the key,  
an anti-piracy module weaving an ID tag in the decoded music content; and  
a terminal outputting the music content.

47. (Amended) A user station for distributing music to users from a transmitter blanket transmitting a plurality of encoded digital music contents, comprising  
a first input terminal receiving a user selection of a transmitted music content to store;  
a module receiving and storing the selected transmitted music content;  
an output terminal sending an indication of the user selection;  
a second input terminal receiving a key unique to the music content selected by the user to enable the decoder;  
a decoder operable when enabled to decode the stored encoded music content;

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an anti-piracy module weaving an ID tag in the received music content; and  
an output device supplying the decoded music content to the user from the decoder.

51. (Amended) A method for distributing music to users, comprising:  
blanket-transmitting a plurality of encoded digital music contents to a plurality of user stations;  
receiving a user selection of a transmitted encoded music content to store;  
receiving the selected transmitted encoded music content at a user station;  
storing the selected transmitted encoded music content at the user station;  
sending an indication of the user selection to a central controller;  
receiving at the central controller from a user station an indication of a user selection of a transmitted music content;  
transmitting to the user station a key unique to the selected music content;  
receiving the key at a user station;  
enabling a decoder at the user station to decode the stored encoded music content;  
weaving an ID tag in the received music content;  
supplying the decoded music content to the user; and\\  
billing the user for the supplied music content.

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